

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SINGAP 01969 01 OF 02 040451Z
ACTION MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 A-01 PER-01 OES-07 SS-15
SP-02 SIG-03 ABF-01 /043 W
-----014889 040459Z /21
R 040030Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 175

C O N F I D E N T I S A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SINGAPORE 1969

STADIS //////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJ: FY 1980 GORM PROCESS -- PART II

REF: A. SINGAPORE 1909, B. STATE 63477

1. FOLLOWING IS PART II OF THE GORM PRESENTATION FOR SINGAPORE, CONSISTING OF "CANDID EVALUATIONS OF ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES UNDER THE AMBASSADOR'S SUPERVISION, COORDINATION, AND DIRECTION" AS SPECIFIED IN REF B. THE NUMBERING OF U.S. OBJECTIVES CORRESPONDS TO THAT USED IN PART I OF THIS PRESENTATION.

2. THE U.S. MISSION IN SINGAPORE INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING COMPONENTS FROM USG AGENCIES OTHER THAN STATE: THE ICA OFFICE, THE INTERNATIONAL MARKETING CENTER (STAFF FUNDED JOINTLY BY STATE AND COMMERCE), THE DEA OFFICE, THE DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE (DIA), THE U.S. NAVY OFFICE, A COAST GUARD MERCHANT MARINE DETAIL, AND A U.S. AIR FORCE MANAGEMENT TRAINING ASSISTANCE TEAM (MTAT). ONE OF THESE UNITS, THE MTAT, SHOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM THE BUDGET PROCESS BECAUSE IT IS FULLY FUNDED BY THE GOS AT NO COST TO THE USG. COMMENTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE OTHER OFFICES FOLLOW:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SINGAP 01969 01 OF 02 040451Z

1. INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY: THE TOTAL COMPLEMENT IS FOUR AMERICANS AND TWENTY-FIVE LOCAL EMPLOYEES. THE ICA OFFICE PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE ACROSS THE BOARD IN U.S. OBJECTIVES, ESPECIALLY OBJECTIVES I, IV AND VII. THE ICA OPERATION HERE IS A MODEL ONE THAT HAS BEEN SINGLED OUT FOR PRAISE BY TEAMS OF INSPECTORS FROM BOTH USIS AND STATE. IT HAS

BEEN REDUCED IN SIZE OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS BY THE LOSS OF ONE AMERICAN TRAINEE POSITION AND SEVERAL LOCAL POSITIONS. ITS PRESENT STAFFING PATTERN IS ADEQUATE BUT SPARTAN. ANY FURTHER CUTS IN THE HARDWORKING AMERICAN STAFF WOULD BE LIKELY TO IMPAIR ITS EFFECTIVENESS. FURTHER CUTS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE IN THE LOCAL STAFF, BUT AT THE COST OF A LOSS IN THE QUALITY OF ITS OUTPUT -- AND QUALITY IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THIS PARTICULAR OPERATION.

2. INTERNATIONAL MARKETING CENTER: CURRENT COMPLEMENT IS TWO AMERICAN AND FIVE LOCAL (4 COMMERCE AND 1 STATE) EMPLOYEES FINANCED JOINTLY BY STATE AND COMMERCE. ONE OF THE STATE POSITIONS WOULD BE ABOLISHED UNDER THE GORM 90 PERCENT PACKAGE, THUS ELIMINATING THE IMC'S INHOUSE MARKET ANALYSIS CAPABILITY. IMC'S DOMINANT FOCUS IS OBJECTIVE III, ALTHOUGH IT ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO OBJECTIVE IV AND TO SOME EXTENT OBJECTIVE I AS WELL. THE OFFICE HAS USED ITS MODEST RESOURCE SKILLFULLY TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROMOTION OF U.S. EXPORTS THROUGHOUT THE SEA REGION, IT IS A LEAN OPERATION AND A MOST EFFECTIVE ONE. A GRAPHIC EXAMPLE OF ITS SUCCESS CAN BE FOUND IN THE COMMENTS OF A MEMBER OF CONGRESS HITHERTO CRITICAL OF USG-OPERATED MARKETING CENTERS, WHO VISITED SINGAPORE SOME MONTHS AGO AND WARMLY PRAISED THE IMC.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SINGAP 01969 01 OF 02 040451Z

3. DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY: COMPLEMENT IS THREE AMERICANS, INCLUDING TWO AGENTS AND ONE SECRETARY. THE SMALL DEA OFFICE FOCUSES ENTIRELY ON OBJECTIVE V. IT HAS BEEN HIGHLY EFFECTIVE IN ITS MISSION, ESTABLISHING CLOSE WORKING RELATIONS WITH THE GOS AND HELPING APPRECIABLY TO UPGRADE THE LATTER'S ANTI-NARCOTIC ACTIVITIES. IT IS PRIMARILY THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF DEA, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT SINGAPORE'S CONTROL OVER POINTS OF ENTRY HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED BY THE DEPLOYMENT OF DETECTOR DOGS. THE DEA UNIT HERE IS HARDWORKING, EFFICIENT, AND CERTAINLY CONTAINS NO EXCESS FAT.

4. DEFENSE ATTACHES: COMPLEMENT CONSISTS OF A NAVAL ATTACHE (ALSO SERVING AS SENIOR DEFENSE ATTACHE), AN ARMY ATTACHE, AN AIR FORCE ATTACHE, AN ASSISTANT NAVAL ATTACHE AND A SUPPORT STAFF OF SIX AMERICANS AND FIVE LOCALS. THE NUMBER OF ATTACHES MIGHT SEEM EXCESSIVE IN A COUNTRY AS SMALL AS SINGAPORE, BUT EACH HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY. THE U.S. HAS BECOME SINGAPORE'S MAIN SOURCE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT (ALL OF IT PURCHASED FOR CASH), REQUIRING THE ARMY ATTACHE TO DEVOTE THE BULK OF HIS TIME TO FMS MATTERS. THE NAVAL ATTACHE'S FUNCTIONS

INCLUDE A GREAT DEAL OF LIAISON AND COORDINATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE BY THE U.S. NAVY OF SINGAPORE AS ONE OF ITS MAJOR PORTS OF CALL IN EAST ASIA, FOR THE PURPOSES OF "SHOWING THE FLAG"; REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, AND REFUELING; AND SHORT LEAVE. THE ROLE OF THE AIR FORCE ATTACHE IS ENHANCED BY THE FACT THAT SINGAPORE IS IN THE PROCESS OF ACQUIRING A LARGELY U.S.-MADE AIR FORCE. THE ASSISTANT NAVAL ATTACHE HAS A SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE TASK INVOLVING THE MONITORING OF THE MOVEMENTS OF SOVIET WARSHIPS AND OTHER VESSELS TRANSITING SINGAPORE STRAITS ENROUTE BETWEEN THE PACIFIC AND INDIAN OCEANS OR UNDERGOING REPAIRS IN SINGAPORE. DAO'S OPERATIONS ARE PRIMARILY IN SUPPORT OF U.S. OBJECTIVES I AND II AND IT DOES SO EFFECTIVELY. ELIMINATION OF ANY OF THE ATTACHE POSITIONS WOULD NOT SERVE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 SINGAP 01969 01 OF 02 040451Z

U.S. INTERESTS. THE SUPPORTING STAFF SEEMS AMPLE AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT A MODEST REDUCTION COULD BE MADE IN THAT AREA, BUT ONLY AFTER A CAREFUL STUDY TO INSURE THAT NO ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS WOULD BE UNDULY HAMPERED.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SINGAP 01969 02 OF 02 040444Z
ACTION MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 A-01 PER-01 OES-07 SS-15

SP-02 SIG-03 ABF-01 /043 W

-----014816 040502Z /21

R 040030Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 176

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SINGAPORE 1969

STADIS //////////////////////////////////////

5. U.S. NAVY OFFICE: PRESENT COMPLIMENT IS 13 AMERICANS AND 16 LOCAL EMPLOYEES. THE FUNCTION OF THE NAVY OFFICE IS TO PROVIDE A VARIETY OF SERVICES FOR U.S. NAVY AND OTHER U.S. PUBLIC VESSELS CALLING AT SINGAPORE AS WELL AS FOR U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT TRANSITING

SINGAPORE ON SUPPLY FLIGHTS TO DIEGO GARCIA AND INDIAN OCEAN RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS. SERVICES INCLUDE NOT ONLY REFUELING, PROVISIONING, ETC. BUT THE CONTRACTING AND MONITORING OF REPAIRS TO U.S. VESSELS IN SINGAPORE SHIPYARDS. ITS OPERATIONS ARE IN FURTHERANCE OF U.S. OBJECTIVE II AND TO A SOMEWHAT LESSER EXTENT, OBJECTIVE I. THE NAVY OFFICE IS LOCATED A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE FROM THE OTHER MISSION ELEMENTS AND, WITH ITS SPECIALIZED FUNCTIONS, IS PUITE DISTINCT FROM THE REST OF THE U.S. MISSION IN SINGAPORE. ITS PERSONNEL ARE NOT CONSIDERED BY THE SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT TO BE DIPLOMATIC MISSION PERSONNEL AND ARE NOT INCLUDED WITHIN THE CEILING IMPOSED ON THE MISSION (AS WELL AS ON ALL OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS) BY THE GOVERNMENT. GIVEN THE SIZE AND NATURE OF ITS WORK-LOAD, ITS COMPLEMENT DOES NOT APPEAR IN ANY WAY EXCESSIVE.

6. COAST GUARD: PRESENT COMPLEMENT IS THREE AMERICANS AND TWO LOCAL EMPLOYEES. THE FUNCTION OF THE OFFICE IS TO INSPECT AND PROVIDE OTHER NECESSARY SERVICES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SINGAP 01969 02 OF 02 040444Z

FOR U. S. FLAG MERCHANT SHIPS IN THE REGION. THEIR WORK IS PRIMARILY IN SUPPORT OF OBJECTIVE III TO THE EXTENT THAT IT RELATES TO SINGAPORE ITSELF. THE ROLE OF THE COAST GUARD DETAIL WAS DISCUSSED IN 77 SINGAPORE 5149, 77 SINGAPORE 3869 AND EARLIER MESSAGES; THE COMMENTS IN THESE MESSAGES ARE STILL FULLY APPLICABLE. BOTH COAST GUARD OFFICERS CONTINUE TO FIND THAT THE MAJOR PART OF THEIR WORKLOAD IS IN JAPAN, KOREA AND OTHER PARTS OF EAST ASIA RATHER THAN SINGAPORE AND BOTH SPEND MOST OF THEIR TIME ON TDY TO THESE OTHER AREAS.

7. IN RANKING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ABOVE OFFICES IN TERMS OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO U.S. OBJECTIVES IN SINGAPORE, THE COAST GUARD DETAIL WOULD HAVE TO BE PUT AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LIST. AS OUTLINED IN THE MESSAGES CITED IN PARAGRAPH 6 ABOVE, THIS IS NOT TO SUGGEST THAT ITS ACTIVITIES ARE UNIMPORTANT TO THE U.S. BUT MERELY THAT, TO A LARGE EXTENT, THEY ARE CARRIED OUT IN OTHER PARTS OF EAST ASIA BY PERSONNEL ON TDY FROM SINGAPORE.

8. APART FROM THE COAST GUARD DETAIL, WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND A FEASIBLE WAY OF PRIORITY RANKING THE ABOVE AGENCIES FROM THE SINGAPORE PERSPECTIVE. NONE OF THEM HAS THE PRIMARY FUNCTION OF PROVIDING U.S. ASSISTANCE TO SINGAPORE AND NONE OF THEM WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ICA IS PREDOMINANTLY CONCERNED WITH BI-LATERAL U.S.-SINGAPORE RELATIONS. DETERMINING PRIORITIES AMONG THEM REALISTICALLY CAN ONLY BE

DONE ON THE BASIS OF DECISIONS MADE IN WASHINGTON.
THE POST, FOR EXAMPLE, I NOT IN A POSITION TO SET
PRIORITIE AMONG SUCH DIVERSE OBJECTIVES AS MAIN-
TAINING A STRONG VIABLE U.S. NAVAL PRESENCE IN SOUTH-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SINGAP 01969 02 OF 02 040444Z

EAST ASIA, OBTAINING SINGAPORE SUPPORT FOR U.S.
INITIATIVES TOWARD NORTH-SOUTH ECONOMIC ISSUES, INTRA-
DICTING THE FLOW OF NARCOTICS TO THE U.S., AND CREAT-
ING AN EXPANDING MARKET FOR U.S. EXPORTS. OUR IM-
PRESSION, HOWEVER, IS THAT NONE OF THE BASIC ACTIVITIES
OF THE ABOVE OFFICES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE COAST
GUARD COULD BE CONSIDERED IN A CATEGORY LOW ENOUGH TO
WARRANT ITS ELIMINATION OR SERIOUS CURTAILMENT OF

OVERALL USG ACTIVITIES IN SINGAPORE WERE TO BE
CUT BY 10 PERCENT.

HOLDRIDGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SINGAP01969
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780189-0989
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780593/aaaadbez.tel
Line Count: 246
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8ade98a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION MMO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 78 SINGAPORE 1909, 78 STATE 63477
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2792128
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FY 1980 GORM PROCESS -- PART II
TAGS: OGEN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8ade98a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014